



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

August 22, 2006

Kathryn Kusske Floyd, Esq.
Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP
1909 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34658, The Alaska Railroad Corporation – Petition
for Exemption to Construct and Operate a Rail Line Between North Pole and
Delta Junction, Alaska

Dear Ms. Floyd:

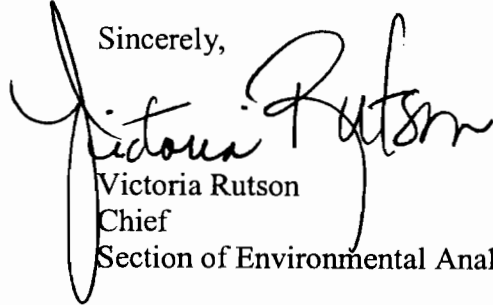
This responds to your letter of August 18, 2006, requesting preliminary survey results regarding cultural resource sites collected as part of the Surface Transportation Board's environmental review for this proposal. In your letter, you explain that the Alaska Railroad (ARRC) plans to conduct geotechnical drilling at approximately 26 sites along various ARRC-proposed alignments and ancillary facility locations for the proposed rail line. The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) currently has a third-party contracting team conducting cultural resources field surveys on these proposed alignments and facility locations. Your ask whether any of the surveys completed to date indicate the presence of cultural resources at the proposed drilling locations.

In response to your request, we are providing preliminary information collected through August 18, 2006 (see final column of the attached table). We must emphasize that the field surveys are *on-going* and that the attached information is considered *preliminary* because it has not been submitted to the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for review and concurrence. Until concurrence is obtained from the SHPO all survey results are subject to change including but not limited to the "no sites" or negative findings.

NOTE: The table referenced in this letter contains sensitive information on the location of cultural resources and is not available for review on the Board's web site.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Dave Navecky, SEA Project Manager, at 202-565-1593 or Alan Summerville, ICF Consulting Project Manager, at 703-934-3616.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and "R".

Victoria Rutson

Chief

Section of Environmental Analysis

Attachment